Mission

LSU Libraries supports the academic mission of the University by fostering teaching, learning, and research. Through its commitment to excellence in collections, services, and spaces, the Libraries serves as an indispensable intellectual resource for the state of Louisiana, and indeed to communities worldwide.

2017-2022 LSU Libraries Strategic Goals

Collections | Learning | Diversity | Facilities | Service Excellence | Philanthropy
From the Dean

Research libraries exist in a state of perpetual disruption, buffeted by changing technologies, pedagogies, and shifting institutional demands, all complicated by daunting financial constraints. The contents of this year’s Impact Report are an emphatic and even joyous rejoinder: LSU Libraries embraces these challenges and yet manages to produce excellent library services. You’ll find in these pages breathtaking new collections, talented, productive staff, and good news relating to facilities at both Hill Memorial Library and Middleton Library.

For the first time, this year’s Impact Report documents the significant progress the Libraries has made in every aspect of its diversity agenda. We recognize that these accomplishments make our Libraries better in every sense, all the while knowing that we have much work yet to do. We are grateful for working in an institution that supports, encourages, and models diversity as effectively as does LSU.

It’s easy to feel energized at this university. LSU is making significant strides in so many phases of its operations, seeming to break records as a matter of routine. Viewed in this context, the Libraries may appear to be simply keeping pace. But the Libraries is a genuine leader as well, innovating, advocating, and shaping the future of library services for a great flagship university.

None of this would be possible without the steadfast commitment and support of the broader LSU community. We are so fortunate to live and work among people like you. Onward and upward into a new year of service to the citizens of Louisiana and the world.

Stanley Wilder, Dean of LSU Libraries
**LSU Libraries at a Glance**

LSU Libraries includes Hill Memorial Library and Middleton Library. Together, these libraries contain more than four million volumes in addition to expert faculty and staff, technology, services, electronic resources, and facilities, all of which foster teaching, learning, and research across every discipline. The following figures quickly highlight the Libraries’ value to the campus, state, and beyond during the 2019 fiscal year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty publications</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach events</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours of oral history interviews conducted</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral history collections accessioned</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total titles contributed to Newspapers.com</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development gifts</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction sessions</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research consultations</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research visits to LSU Libraries Special Collections</td>
<td>1,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference transactions</td>
<td>5,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New books purchased</td>
<td>5,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document delivery requests filled</td>
<td>7,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students that attended instruction sessions</td>
<td>8,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total newspaper issues contributed to Newspapers.com</td>
<td>12,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacts made through outreach efforts</td>
<td>22,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan requests received</td>
<td>47,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raised by Friends of the LSU Libraries’ 2019 Annual Book Bazaar</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web views of research guides</td>
<td>232,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downloads of LSU research and scholarship through LSU Libraries Digital Commons</td>
<td>1,051,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total pages of Louisiana newspapers contributed to Newspapers.com</td>
<td>2,668,715</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visitors from NEAR and FAR

*LSU Libraries Special Collections welcomed visitors affiliated with the organizations below (not a complete list):*

- Cambridge University
- Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- College of William and Mary
- Council for the Development of French in Louisiana
- Dartmouth College
- Harvard University
- Iowa State University
- Louisiana Old State Capitol
- Magnolia Mound Plantation
- Mississippi State University
- Nagasaki University
- Northwestern University
- St. Cloud State University
- Tulane University
- University of California Irvine
- University of Liverpool
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- University of Mississippi
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Quebec at Montreal
- University of Rochester
- Utrecht University
This fall students returned to LSU to find new study spaces and furniture on the first floor of Middleton Library. The new furniture includes private desks, couches, booths, tables, seating, and dry erase boards. Power outlets and bag hooks can also be found throughout the furniture.

“It’s a nice, comfortable place to study away from home,” said Carly Burns, a sophomore communication studies major, “especially since there are so many outlets and white boards to use.” Horticulture major Elaine Monti said she is pleasantly surprised at how colorful and new the furniture is.

Frost-Barber’s CEO, Doug Jehle, a new member of the Dean’s Advisory Council (see page 18), helped the Libraries secure an in-kind furniture grant through Steelcase Furniture Company, substantially reducing the cost of the furniture upgrades in Middleton Library.

“Our partnership with Doug Jehle and the whole Frost-Barber team has been very exciting for LSU Libraries’ development program,” said Virginia Archer, Director of Development. “In-kind gifts like this one support the Libraries in an immediate and tangible way. We know the students will feel the positive impact of Frost-Barber’s philanthropy when they return in the fall, and for that we could not be more grateful.”
**New Online Library Resources**

New and upgraded databases have been added through the LOUIS Collection, adding to the hundreds of online databases available to students and faculty.

The changes include six content upgrades and one resource addition: Art & Architecture Complete, Environment Complete, Legal Source, Literary Reference Center Plus, MAS Complete, Newspaper Source Plus, MasterFILE Complete (new to the LOUIS Core Collection), and the American Antiquarian Society Historical Periodicals Collection.

LOUIS is a consortium of Louisiana college and university libraries that was formed to reduce institutional costs related to the procurement of library technology and services.

**Open Textbook Adoption Workshop**

In April 2019, Science Librarian David Dunaway hosted an Open Textbook Adoption Workshop for LSU faculty to discuss the impact of high textbook costs on students and possible solutions through open textbooks. After the workshop, participants who attended were invited to write a review of an open textbook relevant to their area of expertise and received $200 to compensate their time. The workshop resulted in 100 percent of all attendees adopting an open textbook for their courses.

**New Library Catalog System**

In August, LSU Libraries launched a new and improved catalog system that features more intuitive keyword searching, faceted browsing, and account management features.
RIS Consultation Room

The RIS (Research and Instruction Services) Consultation Room (above) provides a comfortable and quiet space for students and faculty to meet with subject librarians.

This year, the room has been redesigned with a comfortable sofa, chairs, and work spaces more conducive to collaboration, in addition to a white board and a large screen monitor display with a computer set-up.

The space provides opportunities for librarians to meet with students, faculty, staff, and colleagues to work through projects and to provide support for research, teaching, and learning.

RIS Coordinator Allen LeBlanc worked with Facilities Manager Inga Comardelle to complete the redesign of this space.

Library Taster

On August 29, incoming graduate students attended a Library Taster at Middleton Library to learn more about library services that could make their graduate school experience more enriching. Attendees also had an opportunity to meet their subject librarians and register for library workshops.

Coordinated by Events & Programming Librarian Randa Lopez Morgan, the workshops included lessons and discussions on active learning, citation management using Mendeley and EndNote, research skills, useful resources, the new catalog, literature reviews, and archival research.

Faculty librarians Dave Comeaux, Amanda Hawk, Brittany O’Neill, and Sarah Simms led the workshops.
Cultivating Young Scholars

Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP)

Mitch Fontenot, Humanities and Social Sciences and Outreach Librarian, welcomed the Duke Talent Identification Program (TIP) to LSU Libraries throughout the summers of 2018 and 2019. The Duke TIP Program is a national pre-collegiate studies program that provides educational opportunities and social and emotional support to gifted fourth to twelfth grade students.

The students spend one month at LSU researching specific topics such as modern medicine, neuropsychology, cryptography, philosophy, and literature with the help of the resources, relevant databases, and subject librarians from LSU Libraries. Fontenot gave tours and presentations to twelve sections of academically gifted high school students from around the southern United States.

Sixth Grade Fair

For the past two spring semesters, LSU Libraries has participated in Sixth Grade Day, an event established by LSU President F. King Alexander to cultivate young local scholars as early and often as possible.

Approximately 2,400 sixth grade students from East Baton Rouge Parish schools come to the LSU campus twice per year for three days of information, touring, and presentations. LSU Libraries faculty met with the students and provided them with information about library resources and services.
Digital Initiatives

University Archives Photograph Collection (1886-1997)

Over 1,000 photographs were digitized from the University Archives Photograph Collection. The LSU Photograph Collection comprises images commissioned by the University for use in catalogs, photograph albums, and other publications. The photographs in this collection are chiefly from 1886-1925 and document life on the downtown campus, but also include images of the present campus from 1922 to 1997. There are portraits of students and graduating classes, portraits and group photographs of faculty and administrators, images of campus buildings and grounds on the downtown campus and the present campus, and other images that highlight campus life through time.

Lewis Stirling and Family Papers (1784-1938)

The Lewis Stirling and Family Papers (1784-1938; bulk 1830-1860) have been digitized. The seventeen boxes of materials record aspects of the life of Lewis Stirling, the owner of four Louisiana cotton and sugar plantations, and his family. They include personal and business correspondence, diaries, and plantation records as well as bills of sale and registers of people enslaved by Stirling with their names, dates of birth and death, and parentage. It has been a collection of particular interest to researchers due to its fairly extensive documentation of enslaved populations.

Lewis Stirling’s slave register (1846); Above: LSU Class of 1930 Fifty Year Reunion (1980).
Louisiana Newspapers

During the past year, Newspapers.com, a division of Ancestry.com of Lehi, Utah, digitized 3,259 reels of Louisiana newspaper microfilm loaned by the LSU Libraries Special Collections.

The project included twenty-four newspaper titles owned by Louisiana State Newspapers, a leading publisher based in Lafayette, along with the Daily Advertiser in Lafayette and a handful of newspapers in Opelousas, Monroe, and Shreveport that are owned by Gannett, a mass media holding company headquartered in McLean, Virginia. The newspapers included not only currently published titles, but also older newspapers acquired and absorbed by the publishers over the years. Most of the issues sent for digitization dated from 1923 to the present.

LSU students, faculty, and staff have free access to more than 2,668,000 pages of Louisiana newspapers on Newspapers.com. LSU Libraries has had a partnership with Newspapers.com since 2015.

A Gift: The Daily Reveille

An LSU alumnus and former editor for The Daily Reveille during the civil rights era has donated $25,000 toward the $100,000 funding goal for digitizing all The Daily Reveille collections. Last year, LSU Libraries partnered with the LSU Manship School of Mass Communication to raise funds for the digitization of LSU’s award-winning student newspaper.

The Daily Reveille dates back to 1897 and features articles from significant eras of history. Its student-led staff has covered significant national and international events, including the Jim Crow era, World War I and World War II, the civil rights movement and desegregation, the women’s movement, Korean War, Vietnam War, and 9/11. The Daily Reveille’s stories have helped to illuminate the political, intellectual, and cultural history of Louisiana and the American South.

To learn more about donating to the remaining $75,000 goal of the initiative visit LSUFoundation.org.

Access The Daily Reveille and other digitized materials by visiting the Louisiana Digital Library at LouisianaDigitalLibrary.org.
Audubon Day

LSU Special Collections welcomed more than 150 visitors for the Libraries’ annual Audubon Day event, a public display of John James Audubon’s *Birds of America* folios. We thank the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine Raptor Rescue Program, LSU Press, LSU Museum of Natural Science, LSU Ph.D. students in ornithology, and BREC for being part of the event.
Special Collections Research Grants

LSU Libraries Special Collections selected five scholars to receive travel grants supporting the use of its materials in their research and publication projects. The grants defray travel and lodging costs associated with a trip to Hill Memorial Library in Baton Rouge.


Hannah Conway, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of the History of Science at Harvard University, will be conducting research for her dissertation, which is a historical and ethnographic examination of infrastructural development, access, and failure in the nineteenth and twentieth-century US South. During her time at LSU, she seeks to understand the infrastructural formation and environmental manipulation that has built the Mississippi River and Gulf Coast into particularly technical kinds of landscapes that must be negotiated by private citizens, the state, engineers, and the trade and extraction industries that operate off-shore and along the river.

Dr. Jesse Cromwell, associate professor of history at the University of Mississippi, plans to research Canary Islanders who came to populate Spanish Louisiana in the second half of the eighteenth century as part of a multi-site book project that will compare the Louisiana Canarian settlements to those of the rest of the northern Gulf, Santo Domingo, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela.

Jessica Dauterive, Ph.D. candidate in history at George Mason University, will explore the development of Cajun identity in Southwest Louisiana in the 1930s-1970s, with attention to the ways that various community members harnessed mass media to revive and adapt traditional folkways to the modern world. Her dissertation research also seeks to recover and amplify the voices and actions of cultural brokers, especially women, whose involvement in the Cajun cultural revival has been largely forgotten.

Nicole Viglini (not pictured), Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of California, Berkeley, will consult sources for her dissertation, “A New Kind of Money: Flora, Fauna, and the Economic Networks of Enslaved and Free Women in Nineteenth-Century Louisiana and Mississippi.” Her project challenges notions of the wilderness and the market as masculine, and reveals racialized, gendered, and classed discourses of the environment.
Hill Memorial Library Roof Replacement

Replacement of the roof of historic Hill Memorial Library, the first campus library and currently home to LSU Libraries Special Collections, was completed in June 2019.

“The new roof will address long-standing and serious water intrusion problems in the building. Protecting the rare and irreplaceable items found in our special collections is our top priority, and the roof replacement will ensure we are able to provide optimal conditions for preservation,” said Gina Costello, Associate Dean of Technology Initiatives and Special Collections.

The distinctive red tile roofs found on many of LSU's buildings are part of the Italian Renaissance architectural style that was most prominent on campus buildings in the 1920s and 1930s. LSU exclusively uses Ludowici tiles with a color pattern that is unique to the campus.

New Acquisitions

LSU Libraries Special Collections’ recent acquisitions include the images of LGBT+ activist and LSU alumnus Frank Perez who documented 1980s Baton Rouge and Spanish Town Mardi Gras; the works of Roberta “Bobby” Potts, a LSU alumna and student of Caroline Durieux Wogan; and the records relating to the case of Yoshi Hattori, a Japanese exchange student who was fatally shot by Rodney Peairs while living in Baton Rouge in the 1990s.

Melissa Smith, Assistant Curator of Manuscripts, also added to the nineteenth and early twentieth-century collections, including an 1852 bill of sale of an enslaved man; a wallpaper issue of Thibodaux's Confederate Banner published by A.F. & Clay Knobloch on October 25, 1862; and a shop ledger that had belonged to the Stewart family at Oak Alley.

Pictured left: The works of Roberta “Bobby” Potts were on display in Hill Memorial Library as part of the Afternoon in the Archives: 100 Years of Women’s History (1919-2019) program that is featured on page 15.
In honor of Women’s History Month, LSU Libraries Special Collections and LSU Office of Multicultural Affairs hosted Afternoon in the Archives: 100 Years of Women’s History (1919-2019) on March 26.

More than 175 students, faculty, staff, donors, and others visited Hill Memorial Library to view documents, photographs, and publications showcasing women’s historical achievements since gaining the right to vote in 1919. Prominently featured were original items related to the women’s suffrage movement, women of LSU, women in the arts, women naturalists of Louisiana, women as activists, and women in literature.

All materials were selected by Ebony McDonald, African and African-American Diversity Librarian; John Miles, Curator of Books & Head of Instruction in LSU Special Collections; and Melissa Smith, Assistant Curator of Manuscripts.

Afternoon in the Archives is a recurring open house series that was initiated in 2014 as a way for students and the public to thematically engage with LSU Libraries Special Collections’ archival and rare book collections.
We Built This City

From October 2018 to March 2019, LSU Libraries Special Collections presented the exhibition *We Built This City: Baton Rouge as a System of Systems* at Hill Memorial Library. Curated by Public Services Librarian Mark Martin, the exhibition examined what constitutes a city, how systems of a settlement grow and interconnect to become a city, and how history can reveal the effects of that growth on further development.

*We Built This City* defined the systems needed to create and sustain an urban area and presented those systems at pivotal moments in the development of Baton Rouge. The exhibition took the viewer through time, examining Native American occupations, early European descriptions of the site, the turmoil of early European settlement, the area’s first planned development, the devastation of war, industry and expansion, and the rise of the “modern” city.

Aerial photographs by Fonville Winans in 1947 set the stage, illustrating system interactions through street scenes from Scenic Highway and Plank Road, along with images from the LSU and Southern University campuses. Also showcased were artifacts from the Ethnographic and Archaeological Collections in the Anthropology Division of the LSU Museum of Natural Science, and a wealth of materials held in Special Collections that speak to the city’s development. Visitors’ accounts, original suburb plans, war correspondence, and maps were among the items on display.
On the Moon:
Commemorating the Lunar Landing and the Year 1969 (on Earth) with Rare Books, Literary Works, and Contemporary Collections

In celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the first moon landing, LSU Libraries Special Collections presented the exhibition On the Moon: Commemorating the Lunar Landing and the Year 1969 (on Earth) with Rare Books, Literary Works, and Contemporary Collections from March through July 2019 at Hill Memorial Library. The exhibit explored the lunar world and its effect on the tides of the human mind.

Collections displayed from the library’s holdings include items from the year 1969 that illuminate what was happening on Earth when man first walked on the moon. Many items highlighted Louisiana and provided a window into the politics, social change, literature, and popular culture of the time.

Visitors to the exhibition found contemporary themes among the historical. Topics such as activism, race relations, changing university policies regarding the student body, local business and industry, hurricanes and federal response, political commentary, and war all resonate with today’s audience.

Important works of science and literature were among the materials on display. Science titles included a 1635 compilation with Galileo’s Sidereus Nuncius (Starry Messenger) featuring engravings based on his early drawings of the moon when first viewed through a telescope, and Pierre-Simon Laplace’s Traité de mécanique céleste (Treatise of Celestial Mechanics, 1798-1825) in which he proposed a dynamic theory of tides.

Literary works included Daniel Defoe’s The Consolidator (1705); Edgar Allan Poe’s tale of moon travel by balloon, “The Unparalleled Adventure of One Hans Pfaall” as it first appeared in the Southern Literary Messenger (1835); a 1902 edition of Jules Verne’s important early work of science fiction De la terre à la lune (From the Earth to the Moon); and a 1979 edition of Philip K. Dick’s The Man in the High Castle, the basis for the current television series on Amazon Prime.

NEH Chairman Visits the Libraries

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Chairman Jon Parrish Peede visited LSU in November to meet with LSU’s three current recipients of NEH grants. His visit included a tour of LSU Libraries Special Collections to observe how the materials are used for research and teaching.

Pictured, left to right: Katie Henninger, LSU English; John Miles, LSU Libraries, F. King Alexander, LSU President; Jon Parrish Peede, NEH Chairman; Lauren Coats, LSU English; Stacia Haynie, LSU Provost; Gina Costello, LSU Libraries; Chris Barrett, LSU English; Andreas Giger, LSU Music.
LSU Celebrates the Dedication of Senator Mary Landrieu’s Papers

On Sunday, April 14, LSU held a ceremony at Hill Memorial Library to celebrate the dedication of former US Senator Mary Landrieu’s papers, which she donated to LSU Libraries Special Collections. Speakers at the event included Landrieu, LSU President F. King Alexander, and East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome.

LSU Special Collections received Landrieu’s records last spring. These records, totaling 1,600 cubic feet, relate to her eighteen-year career in the US Senate. They cover subjects such as health, education, women’s issues, child welfare, Hurricane Katrina and the New Orleans levee breaches, Hurricanes Rita and Wilma, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, and other environmental issues. Her records also reflect her service as a member of the Armed Services Committee, the Appropriations Committee, chair of the Small Business Committee, and chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Senator Landrieu served three terms in the United States Senate from 1997-2015.

New Members Join Dean’s Advisory Council

Seven new members have joined the LSU Libraries Dean’s Advisory Council (DAC) this year. The DAC advises on, assists with, and supports the Dean’s efforts to promote the recognition, welfare, and progress of the Libraries.

Dan Borné, Voice of LSU Tiger’s Stadium; Board Member, Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation

Cathy Dardenne, Community Leader

Doug Jehle, President and CEO of Frost-Barber Inc.

William Jewell, LSU Student Government President

Adam Knapp, President and CEO of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC)

Justin Vincent, Development Officer, Tiger Athletic Foundation

ZeeZee Zamin, Resource Sharing and Library Services Platform Manager for LOUIS Libraries
Purchasing Committee Re-Established

In the spring of 2019, LSU Libraries’ Special Collections revived its long-dormant Purchasing Committee to help to advise the Curator of Books on book acquisitions and collection development policies.

Last active some twenty years ago, the reborn committee is made up of six active library supporters, bibliophiles, and donors: Jim Bishop, Gresdna Doty, Lake Douglas, Carolyn Hargrave, Doug Jehle, and Faye Phillips. The group met with John Miles (right), the new Curator of Books, to make some of the more striking additions of the past year to the rare book collection, as well as to consider how to best direct future purchases.

Using funds generated by the Friends of the LSU Libraries’ Annual Book Bazaar, the Committee selected a first edition of Bram Stoker’s Dracula (1897), the first illustrated edition of Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein (1831), and a number of artists’ books by Julie Chen, Julie Mahn, Jeanine Michna-Bales, Kara Walker, and Sara White. The group directed funds from the E. A. McIlhenny Collection’s endowment toward the purchase of Henry Dewhurst’s The Natural History of the Order Cetacea (1834), Lorenzo Legati’s Museo Cospiano (1677), Constantine Rafinesque’s Monograph of the Fluviatile Bivalve Shells of the River Ohio (1832), and two artists’ books by Charles Hobson and Ian von Coller.

Friends of the LSU Libraries have established themselves as a 501(c)(3) and are actively recruiting new members!

To become a member, visit:
lib.lsu.edu/about/friends
“Movies under the Moonlight” Film Screening Series

LSU Libraries received sponsorship from its Dean’s Advisory Council to host three film screenings in partnership with Manship Theatre's European Film Festival and the LSU Screen Arts faculty.

The first film screening took place on March 13 and featured the 1963 film 8 1/2 (Otto e Mezzo), in which Marcello Mastroianni plays Guido Anselmi, a director whose new project is collapsing around him, along with his life. Considered one of the greatest films about film ever made, Federico Fellini’s 8 1/2 turns one man’s artistic crisis into a grand epic of the cinema.

More screenings will be announced in the fall of 2019, including Breathless (1960), written and directed by Jean-Luc Godard, and The Seventh Seal (1957) by Ingmar Bergman.

Fierce Has a Story to Tell

The LSU Libraries T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History was selected as one of the main exhibits at the public launch of the historic Fierce for the Future campaign that took place on March 29th at the LSU Parade Grounds. Alumni and faculty attending the event recorded their oral histories with the Center staff and students as part of the “LSU Listens” series.

“The advancement and cultivation of Louisiana’s extraordinary cultural heritage is central to the University’s Strategic Plan,” said Jennifer A. Cramer, Director of the Center, “and the Williams Center carries that out daily with our work to document, preserve, and make available Louisiana’s rich and diverse history.”

LSU announced the launch of Fierce for the Future on March 28th. The $1.5 billion philanthropic campaign will support LSU campuses across the state. Visit FiercefortheFutureCampaign.org to learn more about the campaign and how you can join the effort to elevate Louisiana higher education.
In January, Ebony McDonald (above) joined LSU Libraries as the African and African-American Studies Diversity Librarian, launching its first Diversity Residency Program as part of the Diversity Alliance.

The ACRL (Association of College and Research Libraries) Diversity Alliance unites academic libraries that share a commitment to increasing diversity within the library profession. LSU Libraries’ membership in the Alliance demonstrates its commitment to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion and comes with a commitment to establish a professional residency program.

“I sought out this residency to further explore academic librarianship and refine my professional identity,” says McDonald. “In library school, I found the issue of diversity within the profession intriguing since libraries serve very diverse communities. I hope that through this residency I will be able to find a fitting role for myself as a woman of color in this white female dominated profession.”

Besides working closely with the African and African-American Studies program at LSU during her two-year residency, she is rotating through various departments in the LSU Libraries, including Special Collections, Digital Programs and Services, Communication and Publications, and Research and Instruction Services.

McDonald holds a B.A. in international studies and history from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a M.S. in library science with a Diversity Advocate Certificate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As part of her graduate program, she obtained a competitive internship at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Library. She also completed an internship in the Marketing and Development Department of Durham County Library. Prior to joining the LSU Libraries faculty, she worked as a librarian at Salem Academy & College and Mitchell Community College and as a Refugee AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator at Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency.
Reaching Special Student Populations

African-American Cultural Center (AACC) Umoja

For the first time, LSU Libraries participated in the Clarence L. Barney AACC Umoja welcome event, making contact with approximately 100 incoming students.

International Student Orientation

Each semester, LSU Libraries participates in International Student Orientation. This past academic year, the Libraries reached 412 students.

Lunch & Learn with Student Veterans

Librarians Mitch Fontenot and Rebecca Kelley formed a partnership with the Brookshire Military Student Veterans Center. They hosted library information sessions and creating a resource guide for veterans.

McNair and Summer Scholars Program

Members of the McNair and Summer Scholars Programs, which encourages members of underrepresented groups to attend graduate school, came to the Libraries for a presentation and to meet subject librarians in their fields.

Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute

In 2018, approximately 20 members of the Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute (now the HSS Bridge Initiative), a program designed to encourage members of underrepresented groups to pursue doctorates in the humanities and social sciences (HSS), visited Middleton Library for a tour, presentation, and meet and greet with the HSS subject librarians.

Rainbeaux Rush

In September 2018, LSU Libraries reached 140 students through its inaugural participation in an orientation given by the LGBTQ+ Center and provided a resource guide for LGBTQ+ students.
LSU Honors Linda Smith Griffin

Linda Smith Griffin, Head of Resource Description & Metadata Services, received the Distinction in Diversity Award from the LSU Clarence L. Barney Jr. African-American Cultural Center (AACC) at its 26th Annual Jazz Brunch in February.

The Distinction in Diversity Award is presented to members of the LSU community who exemplify leadership and inclusive excellence through their significant contributions to LSU and the communities that they serve professionally, personally, and civically. One of three recipients of the 2019 award, Smith Griffin was honored alongside Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, the 25th Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, and Kim Hunter Reed, Ph.D., the ninth commissioner of higher education by the Louisiana Board of Regents.

“Linda Smith Griffin is an exemplary research librarian who has had an immeasurable impact on generations of LSU students, and for that matter on our entire community,” says LSU Libraries Dean Stanley Wilder. “We are so proud of her, and delighted that she’s received this recognition.”

Smith Griffin has played an integral part in academics, programming, and events that celebrate the African-American Community across the University, including the Black Faculty and Staff Caucus and the Black Scholars Program, and as a faculty member of the LSU’s African and African-American Studies program. Her leadership and accomplishments have also been recognized with the LSU Libraries 2018 Carolyn H. Hargrave Senior Leadership Award, the 2014 Louisiana Library Association Anthony H. Benoit Mid-Career Award, and in 2011 she was named a Harvard Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians Fellow. Additionally, she has served on the LSU Admissions, Standards, and Honors (ASH) Committee, advised MLK Commemorative Committee, and served as president of the Black Faculty and Staff Caucus at LSU.

The Libraries as a Safe Space

Twenty-three LSU Libraries faculty and staff members have completed voluntary training to provide safe spaces for members of the LGBTQ+ community.

The goal of the Safe Space Campaign is to identify and educate individuals who will affirm and support all people regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity/expression. People displaying the Safe Space symbol are committed to combating hatred and discrimination through assistance and support.

This training equips faculty and staff with the language, knowledge, and tools that should enable them to compassionately serve LGBTQ+ students.
The T. Williams Oral History Center Captures Rare Voices

The T. Williams Oral History Center collects, preserves, and makes available the stories of those groups who are traditionally absent or underrepresented in the written historical record of Louisiana. It also advises individual researchers and community groups who wish to build their capacity to document these stories as well through oral history workshops and ongoing consultations. These involve sharing best practices, providing guidance on technical infrastructure, and assisting with writing grants.

In the 2018-2019 academic year, the Center formed new partnerships to highlight the stories of the LGBTQ+ community and continued collaborations to document narratives of immigrants and African-Americans. It assisted Rebecca Lawler, an Honors College student, with collecting oral histories for her thesis on the history of drag in Louisiana, which resulted in the donation of these interviews to the Center. The Center further endeavored on a project with the Tangipahoa Parish Public Library to document 20th Century Sicilian immigrants who settled in Tangipahoa Parish.

The Center was also vital to initiating an oral history initiative with the LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana. Melissa Smith, Assistant Curator of Manuscripts, joined the board of directors of the LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana in the fall of 2018. In collaboration with Jennifer A. Cramer, Director of the T. Harry Williams Oral History Center, Smith worked alongside volunteers from the LGBT+ Archives Project Oral History subcommittee to launch an oral history initiative. Student assistant Mordi Chapman conducted several interviews for the project. Narrators include an activist, a social worker, and a French Quarter business owner. Smith and Cramer also spoke with the LSU LGBTQ+ Caucus about library resources available for university students, staff, and faculty.

The Project, founded in 2012, educates Louisianans on the importance of documenting and donating LGBT+ materials to area repositories so that they can be made available for future generations to access and research. It promotes and encourages the protection and preservation of materials that chronicle the culture and history of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community in Louisiana.

World Autism Day

On Thursday April 2, the Diversity Committee set up several small displays in the Libraries to celebrate World Autism Awareness Day. The theme for this year was “Light it Up Blue for Autism.”

The displays were dedicated to former LSU Libraries employees Charles Garbush and Benjamin Schexnayder who have been affected by autism. Garbush operated the Libraries’ mailroom for more than 30 years and Schexnayder was a circulation student employee who graduated with a master’s in information and library science.
Media Literacy Week
The Problem with Apu Film Screening and Panel Discussion

As part of Media Literacy Week in November, the lecture hall at Hill Memorial Library filled to capacity with students and faculty members to watch and discuss the feature-length documentary from truTV, *The Problem with Apu*. Created by and starring comedian Hari Kondabolu, the film examines the East Indian convenience store owner Apu, a character on the long-running TV series, *The Simpsons*.

Following the screening, Mass Communication Librarian Rebecca Kelley led a panel discussion including Department of History Assistant Professor Asiya Alam, Department of Communications Senior Instructor Joni Butcher, and Mass Communications doctoral candidate Quincy Hodges. The panel discussed racial and ethnic stereotypes in the media, especially on television and film. Students in the audience contributed to the conversation with their observations about why representation in the media is important. “It was our hope that this film and the discussion with our panelists encouraged students to think more critically about representation in the media,” said Kelley.

The purpose of Media Literacy Week is to raise awareness of the importance and power of media literacy education and its essential role in education today. Besides the film screening, the Libraries hosted games and a graduate student workshop centered around media literacy.

TEDxLSU
Two Librarians Talk Internment Camps

Hayley Johnson, Head of Government Documents (above, right) and Sarah Simms, Undergraduate and Student Success Librarian (above, left) shared the stage at TEDxLSU 2019 in March where they presented their research on Japanese-American internment camps in Louisiana during World War II.

Their TEDxLSU performance is the result of an ongoing collaboration between the two librarians that has also produced journal articles, lectures, grant awards, and an interactive online research guide, all focusing on the same topic. In their work, Johnson and Simms examine historical documents, oral histories, and historical photographs that tell the histories of Japanese-Americans incarcerated at Camp Livingston near Alexandria, Louisiana.

According to its website, TEDxLSU is the premier TEDx event in the greater Baton Rouge area, bringing together local, regional, and statewide communities in a way that enables them to imagine the possibilities, spur discussion and dialogue, and generate big ideas that will move the state of Louisiana forward.

Pictured, left to right: Asiya Alam, Joni Butcher, Quincy Hodges.
Confronting the Uncomfortable with NCBI Workshops

A growing number of LSU Libraries faculty and staff members has completed diversity training workshops by the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) at LSU, a leadership development program proven to reduce or eliminate bias, discrimination, controversy, and interpersonal conflict on campus.

The NCBI Welcoming Diversity Workshop helps participants celebrate their similarities and differences, recognize possible misinformation they have learned about different groups, and how to reevaluate personal attitudes and behaviors that are based on the impact of prejudice and discrimination. It also encourages attendees to claim pride in their group identities, understand the personal impact of discrimination through the telling of stories, and learn hands-on tools for dealing effectively with offensive remarks and behaviors.

The NCBI Controversial Issues Workshop trains leaders to deal constructively with tough conflicts, enabling them to move disputing parties toward future cooperation. The workshop helps participants accurately define a controversy, listen and repeat back another side’s concerns, ask questions that elicit the concerns underlying another side’s position, map out concerns on each side of an issue, and reframe an issue in a way that produces action points that all sides can support.

A Committee to Advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Diversity Committee consists of eight rotating faculty and staff members who are committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts in the Libraries in line with the 2017-2022 LSU Libraries Strategic Goals (see page 2).

Committee members were integral to the successful January 2019 launch of the Diversity Residency Program (see page 21). Members of the group arranged professional development opportunities on the topic, contributed recommendations for the program, served on the search committee, and advocated for and communicated about the initiative to other library staff. The committee has also contributed changes to the Libraries’ general recruitment procedures, a factor in the recent increase in hiring faculty and staff members from underrepresented groups.

Professional development was a focus for the committee this year, with members setting up access to an online conference about reaching underserved populations, a webinar on how racial micro-aggressions are perceived, and bystander intervention training. Many staff members also participated in Safe Space training (see page 23) and workshops held by LSU’s National Coalition Building Institute (see above).

LSU Libraries’ staff also served on the Office of Diversity’s Chat & Chew Committee and Academic Diversity Representatives Committee.
New Faculty & Staff

**John Guillory** joined LSU Libraries as the new Digitization Technician. Originally from New Orleans, LA, Guillory earned a B.A. in anthropology, M.A. in education, and his MLIS from LSU. He enjoys painting and drawing in his spare time.

**Narcissa Haskins** joined LSU Libraries as the Teaching and Learning Librarian. Originally from Philadelphia, PA, Haskins received her B.A. in interdisciplinary studies from Bennett College and MLIS from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Ebony McDonald** joined LSU Libraries as the African and African-American Diversity Librarian. Originally from Charlotte, NC, McDonald earned her B.A. in history and international studies and MSLS from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and at Chapel Hill respectively.

**Darcée Olson** joined LSU Libraries as the new Copyright and Scholarly Communications Policy Director. Originally from Santa Cruz, CA, Olson has a J.D. from Southwestern University and her B.A. in business and humanities from Golden Gate University.

**Marcus Spann** joined LSU Libraries as the STEM Librarian and liaison to the College of Engineering. Originally from Baton Rouge, LA, he earned his B.A. in political science from Southern University and MLIS from LSU.

**Lindsey Hartman** joined LSU Libraries as Coordinator for the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History. Originally from Baton Rouge, she previously was a Graduate Assistant in Music Resources at Middleton Library. Hartman graduated in May 2019 with her Ph.D. from the Experimental Music & Digital Media doctoral program at LSU. She also has a M.M. from LSU’s School of Music and a B.M. in Flute Performance from California State University.

**Jessica Joseph** joined LSU Libraries as the Government Documents Needs and Offers Specialist. Originally from Thibodaux, LA, Joseph is currently a student in LSU’s Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program.

**John Miles** joined LSU Libraries as Curator of Books and Head of Instruction Services in LSU Special Collections. Originally from central Kentucky, Miles earned his Ph.D. from Duke University, M.A. from University of Arizona, and B.A. from Trinity University.

**Winnie Schwaid-Lindner** joined LSU Libraries as the Digital Preservation Librarian. Schwaid-Lindner recently graduated from NYU’s Moving Image Archiving and Preservation (MIAP) M.A. Program. She also has a B.A. in geosciences from Smith College.

**Caroline Ziegler** joined LSU Libraries as the Special Collections Conservation Coordinator. Originally from Jeanerette, LA, Ziegler received her B.F.A in Studio Art and M.F.A. in Book Arts & Printmaking from the University of the Arts.
Promotions & Changes

Marty Miller was promoted to Associate Librarian with tenure.

Randa Lopez Morgan is LSU Libraries’ new Events & Programming Librarian. She remains the liaison to the College of Agriculture.

Achievements & Awards

Cristina Caminita received the LSU Libraries’ Carolyn H. Hargrave Senior Leadership Award.

Barry Cowan received the LSU Libraries’ Staff Award.

Jennifer A. Cramer received a service award from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) of Louisiana for assistance with their organization’s participation in the Library of Congress Veterans History Project.

David Dunaway and Randa Lopez Morgan (above, top left) received Happy Awards from LSU’s Center for Community Engagement, Learning and Leadership (CCELL), recognizing their significant contributions to the community and service-learning.

Linda Smith Griffin received the Distinction in Diversity award from the LSU Clarence L. Barney Jr. African-American Cultural Center (see page 21).

Amanda Hawk received an Early Career Librarian Scholarship from the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) to attend their 2019 biannual conference in Cleveland, OH.

Hayley Johnson is one of the recipients of the 2019 Margaret T. Lane/Virginia F. Saunders Memorial Research Award for the book Government Information Essentials (ALA 2018).

Ebony McDonald (pictured on page 27) was one of fifty awardees to receive a $1000 travel scholarship for IDEAL ‘19: Advancing Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility in Libraries & Archives held in Columbus, OH.

Marty Miller (above, top right) received the 2018-19 Brubaker Award for her article “Sacred vs. Profane in A Neutral’s Indictment: Louis Raemaekers’s Use of Religious Imagery in Adoration of the Magi and Our Lady of Antwerp” (see citation on page 29).

Brittany O’Neill received an Up and Comer Award from ATG Media. The 2018 Up and Comer Awards were only given to 15 recipients throughout North America.

Sarah Simms received the LSU Libraries’ Early Career Librarian Award.

Nicholas Skaggs became a Certified Archivist in November 2018 after passing the Academy of Certified Archivists’ Certified Archivist (CA) exam in August 2018.
Faculty Publications


Hebert, Andrea. “Information Literacy Skills of First-Year Library and Information Science Graduate Students: An Exploratory Study,” Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice, Vol. 13, No. 3 (September 2018).


In Memoriam

Charles Garbush

After a battle with cancer, Charles Garbush passed away on December 2, 2018. Due to his illness, he had recently retired from LSU Libraries after almost 37 years of service.

Garbush was hired in 1981 and distributed mail throughout the Libraries. “Charles was the epitome of dependability and consistency,” said Jason Juneau, Garbush’s immediate supervisor. Because he delivered mail to departments inside the Libraries as well as other units, he became a well-known personality all over campus.

George Guidry

On June 6, 2019, former Director of LSU Libraries George Guidry passed away at the age of 96. Guidry began his career as a student worker in the Circulation Department (now Access Services) in 1946 and worked in many capacities during his time at the Libraries, ultimately serving as Library Director for ten years before retiring in 1983.

As director, he made a tremendous impact on the Libraries, expanding the library volumes, increasing the library budget, leading the Libraries toward automated services, and revitalizing the Friends of the LSU Libraries.

In addition to his career with the Libraries, Guidry was a US Army veteran who served in World War II and was an avid art collector. Upon his retirement, an endowment was created in his name to fund purchases for the E. A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection.

Guidry was an admired leader, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. LSU Libraries salutes his life and longstanding legacy.
Connect with Us

FACEBOOK
Connect to our four Facebook pages for related news and announcements: LSU Libraries, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Civil War Book Review, LSU Oral History.

TEXT ALERTS
Text @lsulib to 81010 to receive text announcements from the Libraries. This service is for fun events, not emergencies.

INSTAGRAM
Our Instagram account features items from LSU Libraries Special Collections, information about resources, “Humans of LSU Libraries,” and more.

www.instagram.com/lsulibraries

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